

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 EUR-10 CIAE-00

INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 PRS-01 EB-03 T-01 MC-02

OMB-01 RSR-01 /057 W
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R 091644 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5283

INFO USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1225

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, SP, US

SUBJECT: PRESS COMMENTARY ON SHIP LOANS

REF MADRID 1174

1. DURING MY MEETING WITH LOPEZ BRAVO MARCH 8 I EXPRESSED MY CONCERN THAT EDITORIAL IN INFORMACIONES ON SHIP LOANS, AS WELL AS EARLIER NEWS ARTICLES, CONTAINED FALSE STATEMENTS AND WERE CALCULATED TO HINDER GOOD RELATIONS WHICH WE WERE BOTH WORKING TO MAINTAIN.

2. LOPEZ BRAVO SAID HE AGREED THAT THEY WERE FALSE, ADDING THEY DO NOT REPRESENT VIEWS OF GOS AND ARE INIMICAL TO THE BEST INTERESTS OF BOTH SPAIN AND THE US.

3. LOPEZ BRAVO WENT ON TO SAY THAT BOTH INFORMACIONES AND YA ARE CONTROLLED BY FORMER FONMIN CASTIELLA. BOTH PUBS, WHICH REFLECT HIS VIEWS ON US- SPANISH DEFENSE RELATIONS, HAVE IN PAST CARRIED CRITICAL ARTICLES AND WILL CONTINUE TO CARRY THEM. HE ADDED THAT SUCH ARTICLES HAVE BEEN GOING ON SINCE ABOUT 1969 WHEN THE MOST RECENT BASES NEGOTIATIONS WERE UNDERWAY AND ABOUT THE TIME CASTIELLA CEASED BEING
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FONMIN.

4. I TOLD LOPEZ BRAVO I PLANNED TO REGISTER A WRITTEN PROTEST WITH INFORMACIONES AND THAT I WAS PREPARING PROTESTS TO SEND TO THE SPANISH NAVY CHIEF OF STAFF AND THE MINISTER OF THE NAVY, NOTING THAT I WOULD REQUEST THE MINISTER OF THE NAVY TO MAKE A PUBLIC DISAVOWAL OF THE CHARGES IN THE ARTICLE.
RIVERO

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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